

From: John & BJ Cochran
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 12:49pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

**114 Luckie Street
Cartersville, GA 30120**

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

It is a crying shame that the lawsuit against Microsoft and the ensuing three years of litigation have occurred in our country. Microsoft was more innovative than any of their competitors and therefore became successful. Microsoft really served our country beautifully by standardizing the IT sector, creating jobs, generating wealth, and making technological breakthroughs.

This success does not warrant government interference, and if I did not know any better, I would say it was this lawsuit that contributed to our economy's downfall. The terms of the settlement only reflect the intense lobbying efforts of the competition and the lack of concern from lawmakers and politicians. Microsoft has to disclose interfaces that are internal to Windows operating system products and grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows so that non-Microsoft software programs can more easily promoted. These concessions and more are all aimed at helping the competition gain an edge they did not have beforehand. None of the concessions really protect consumer rights.

But, I do request that you implement the settlement because further litigation would only benefit the lawyers' pockets and would do harm to our nation's public. Please take the right steps. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

John Cochran

cc: Representative Bob Barr

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